

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

SB 161

Question Serial No.

0486

Head: 30 Correctional Services DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): 000 Operational ExpensesProgramme:Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Correctional ServicesDirector of Bureau: Secretary for SecurityQuestion:

Please provide the following information on the employment of agency workers:

	2012-13	2011-12	2010-11
Number of employment agency contracts	()	()	()
Total sum of each employment agency contract	()	()	()
Total commission paid to each employment agency	()	()	()
Length of each employment agency contract	()	()	()
Number of agency workers	()	()	()
Distribution of posts taken up by agency workers			
Distribution of monthly salary levels of agency workers			
● \$30,001 or above	()	()	()
● \$16,001 to \$30,000	()	()	()
● \$8,001 to \$16,000	()	()	()
● \$6,501 to \$8,000	()	()	()
● \$5,001 to \$6,500	()	()	()
● \$5,000 or below	()	()	()
● Number of workers with monthly salary below \$5,824	()	()	()
● Number of workers with monthly salary between \$5,824 and \$6,500	()	()	()
Length of employment of agency workers			
● 5 years or above	()	()	()
● 3 to 5 years	()	()	()
● 1 to 3 years	()	()	()
● Less than 1 year	()	()	()
Number of agency workers as a percentage of total number of staff in the department	()	()	()
Total fees paid to employment agencies as a percentage of the total expenditure on all staff of the department	()	()	()
Number of workers remunerated for meal break	()	()	()
Number of workers not remunerated for meal break	()	()	()
Number of workers working 5 days a week	()	()	()
Number of workers working 6 days a week	()	()	()

*Figures in () denote year-on-year changes*Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

Information on the employment of agency workers is set out below:

	2012-13 ¹	2011-12 (as at 31.01.2012)	2010-11 (as at 31.03.2011)
Number of employment agency contracts		12 (±0%)	12
Total sum of each employment agency contract		\$3,999,759 ² (-32%)	\$5,886,152 ²
Total commission paid to each employment agency		Information not available	
Length of each employment agency contract		4-18 months	12-18 months
Number of agency workers		28 (-55%)	62
Distribution of posts taken up by agency workers		Temporary Clerk: 6 Temporary Workman: 19 Project Assistant: 1 Teaching Staff: 2	Temporary Clerk: 20 Temporary Workman: 37 Temporary Administrative Assistant: 1 Product Coordinator: 4
Distribution of monthly salary levels of agency workers			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● \$30,001 or above ● \$16,001 to \$30,000 ● \$8,001 to \$16,000 ● \$6,501 to \$8,000 ● \$5,001 to \$6,500 ● \$5,000 or below 		2 - - 26 (-50%) - -	- - 2 52 8 -
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Number of workers with monthly salary below \$5,824 ● Number of workers with monthly salary between \$5,824 and \$6,500 		- -	8 -
Length of employment of agency workers		Not available ^(Note 1)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 5 years or above ● 3 to 5 years ● 1 to 3 years ● Less than 1 year 			
Number of agency workers as a percentage of total number of staff in the department		0.41% (-56%)	0.93%
Total fees paid to employment agencies as a percentage of the total expenditure on all staff of the department		0.21% (-19%)	0.26%
Number of workers remunerated for meal break Number of workers not remunerated for meal break		Not available ^(Note 2)	
Number of workers working 5 days a week Number of workers working 6 days a week		26(-53%) 2(-71%)	55 7

Figures in () denote year-on-year changes

¹ Figures are not available as the requirements for employing agency workers vary from time to time in the light of changing service and operational requirements.

² The figures are the aggregate total of all contracts.

Note 1 Agency workers are provided by employment agencies according to service contracts. They do not have an employer-employee relationship with the department. As such, we do not have information on the length of employment of agency workers.

Note 2 Whether there is remuneration for meal break for agency workers is an arrangement agreed between employment agencies and agency workers when signing the contracts. We do not have information on whether they are remunerated for meal break.

Signature: _____

Name in block letters: SIN YAT KIN

Post Title: Commissioner of Correctional Services

Date: 28 February 2012